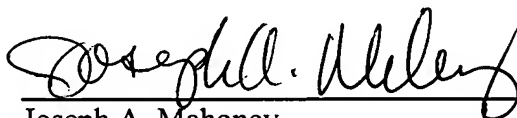


Remarks

This application is a continuation application of U.S. Ser. No. 09/840,844. Original claims 1-27 are canceled herewith and claims 28-58 are added as new claims. The specification has been amended to properly set forth a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. The amendments made herein should in no way be construed as dedicating any unclaimed or amended subject matter, or equivalents thereof, to the public, and are done solely to expedite prosecution. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any cancelled or amended subject matter in this or related applications.

With entry of the above amendments and in view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that pending claims 28-58 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned with any questions, or to otherwise expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joseph A. Mahoney", is written over a horizontal line.

Joseph A. Mahoney
Reg. No. 38956

Date: November 18, 2003

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